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COUNTRY **Czechoslovakia**
 TOPIC **1. PS Battalion in Kout na Sumave**

2. Military Installations in Bratislava

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 EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT prior to 3 December 1951

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1

REMARKS

SOURCE

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PS Battalion in Kout na Sumave.

1. Prior to 3 December 1951, the PS battalion in Kout na Sumave (N 50/P 80) was subordinate to the PS brigade in the castle of Pobezovice (N 50/P 61). Other battalions subordinate to this brigade were the 1st Bn in Bela nad Radbuzou (N 50/P 52); and the 2d or 3d Bn in Trhanov (N 50/P 70), with one company at Mt. Cerchov, about 4 km south-southeast of Cerna Reka (N 50/P 60). (1)
2. Companies subordinate to the battalion in Kout na Sumave were a reserve company in Kout na Sumave; one company in Lesni Louka, 1 or 2 km southeast of Polmava (N 50/U 79); one company in Spalenec (N 50/U 79); the 18th PS Co in Maxov (N 50/U 79); and one company each in Vseruby (N 50/U 89) and Myrsov (N 50/U 89). (2)
3. The 18th Co in Maxov had [redacted] 25X1
 "Pobezovice". It totaled 55 men, only five of whom were Slovaks. It was armed with rifles, submachine guns, 3 model 26 light machine guns and 1 model 37 heavy machine gun and equipped with 1 jeep and 1 motorcycle. In addition, the company had 8 riding horses to patrol the border zone which extended inland behind the off-limits zone. The morale of the personnel was said to be unusually low although about two thirds of them were members of the KSC. Border duty was performed by patrols and stationary guard details in the off-limits zone. In late November 1951, a tracing strip, a narrow belt of barren wasteland, 6 meters wide, was established 500 to 1,000 meters east of the border and was to be harrowed in the spring of 1952.
 In October 1951, the construction of field fortifications was begun about 200 meters east of the border. They consisted of seven standing foxholes and one machine gun emplacement for each squad. Similar fortifications were constructed 1,000 meters east of the border, and a heavy machine gun emplacement was built near Maxov. The latter was lined with boards, covered with beams and camouflaged with earth. (3)
4. A total of about 1,000 recruits were brought to the brigade in Pobezovice in July 1951 and organized into companies of about 100 men each. Their basic training was completed on 15 September 1951. Special courses were then started which included a heavy machine gun course for about 100 men.

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Military Installations in Bratislava.

5. Prior to June 1951, the barracks installations on the west side of Vajnorska cesta, in the northeastern sector of Bratislava (P 49/X 99), were occupied by a motorized and a mounted unit. It was estimated that a total of 2,000 to 3,000 soldiers were quartered there. About 15 tanks and 30 to 35 Studebaker and Canada (sic) trucks, occupied by infantrymen who were armed with sub-machine guns, were repeatedly seen when the motorized unit moved out of the installation. About one-half of the tanks were of a former German type and the other tanks had bogie wheels and track-supporting rollers and had a turret in the center of the hull armed with one machine gun. The strength of the mounted unit when moving out of the installation was estimated at 200 to 250 men. They were armed with pistols. In addition, infantry units were repeatedly seen at these barracks installations. (4)
6. An infantry unit of about 1,000 men wearing red collar patches was quartered in an old barracks installation on Molotova ulica in the city center and another infantry unit of about 250 men also wearing red collar patches was quartered in an installation on Leningradskaja ulica north of the railroad bridge on the southern edge of the city.
7. An artillery unit of 300 to 400 men was located in the subsidiary buildings of the castle in the southwestern sector of the city. From 10 to 12 trucks towing short-barreled guns of about 100-mm were seen following the unit as it marched out of the installation. The basement of the castle brewery was used to store arms and ammunitions. The castle was uninhabitable.
8. An installation, which source believed to be a military school, was located on Prievozka ulica in the eastern sector of the city. It included 3 sheds, about 100 meters long, where pontoon bridge equipment was stored and 1 stable. (5)

Comments.

- (1) The report confirms the PS brigade in Pobezovice with its battalions. A PS battalion in Pivon is also subordinate to this brigade.
- (2) [redacted] stated in April 1951 that the companies of the PS battalion in Kout na Sumave were stationed in Kout, Fohnava, Lesni Louka, Stalenec and Cerchov.
- (3) [redacted] has been reported as [redacted] two other battalions of the PS brigade in Pobezovice. It is believed that this is [redacted] the brigade and is also used as [redacted] of the battalions. The battalions presumably have other [redacted] used in official correspondence, as is the case with other PS brigades. [redacted] explained in detail the subdivision of the border area into an off-limits zone and a border zone. [redacted]
- (4) Probably the Milan Modza Barracks and the Masaryk Barracks which, according to a report of June 1950, were occupied by the Inf Regt [redacted] a cavalry troop and a motorized unit. Another source mentioned the 39th Inf Regt and the 62d Inf Bn as being stationed in Bratislava in November 1951. [redacted] A tank or armored reconnaissance unit, once reported to be located in Bratislava in November 1949, may be the tank unit mentioned in the present report. [redacted]
- (5) It is also possible that components of the 4th Engr Regt or of the 14th River Engr Bn are quartered in this installation. The two units were reported as being located in Bratislava in November 1951. [redacted]

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